Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 RSR-01 /126 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8369

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINS, MZ

SUBJ: GOP STATEMENT ON ALLEGED MASSACRE IN

MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LISBON 2573

1. SECRETARIAT OF STATE FOR INFORMATION RELEASED
AUGUST 18 BRIEF DEFENSE MINISTRY STATEMENT ON INVESTIGATION
OF MOZAMBIQUE MASSACRE ALLEGATIONS. STATEMENT SAID PRELIMINARY
RESULTS OF INQUIRY REFUTE ATROCITY CHARGES AS SPECIFICALLY
ALLEGED, ADDING THAT THIS VIEW VERIFIED BY FOREIGN
JOURNALISTS IN TETE DISTRICT. STATEMENT ADMITS THAT
ISOLATED FORCES HAVE AT LEAST ON ONE OCCASION COMMITTED
"REPREHENSIBLE ACTS" CONTRARY TO ORDERS IN ANOTHER PART
OF MOZAMBIQUE, AND STATED APPROPRIATE SANCTIONS WOULD BE
APPLIED.

2. COMMENT AND BACKGROUND: FOLLOWING JULY 10 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LONDON TIMES' ARTICLE BY ADRIAN HASTINGS CHARGING

PORTUGUESE MASSACRE OF 400 VILLAGERS IN WIRIYAMU (TETE DISTRICT) MOZAMBIQUE, THE GOP ANNOUNCED IT WAS INITIATING INVESTIGATION. AUGUST 18 COMMUNIQUE IS FIRST OFFICIAL GOP STATEMENT ON RESULTS WIRIYAMU INVESTIGATION (REFTEL). ADMISSION THAT "SOMETHING" TOOK PLACE SHOULD BE HELPFUL IN DAMPING DOWN CRITICISM THAT GOP REJECTED MASSACRE ALLEGATION OUT OF HAND.

POST

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED BY OC/T.

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